

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as now presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-35, and 44-50 have been previously canceled. Claims 36, 39, and 40 have been canceled. Claims 37, and 42 have been amended. Claims 37, 38, 41, 42, and 43 are active in the application.

Applicants acknowledge that Claims 37, 38, 41, 42, and 43 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have re-written Claim 42 so as to generally include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants believe that amended Claim 42 is allowable.

Applicants have re-written Claim 37 so as to generally include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants believe that amended Claim 37 is allowable.

Claims 38, 41, and 43 depend from amended Claim 37. Therefore, for the same reasons as discussed above in regard to amended Claim 37, Applicants believe that Claims 38, 41, and 43 are allowable.

The above changes to the claims are self-evident from the original disclosure; thus, no new matter has been introduced, and no new issues have been raised.

Appl. No. 10/723,699
Amdt. dated May 12, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2004

Amendment A, continued

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are definite and in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date of Deposit: *May 12, 2004*

I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited
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